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# BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

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December 20, 1983

OLL #  
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The Honorable William J. Casey  
Director  
The Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Bill:

BCIU has invited President Reagan and Vice President Bush to address its 25th anniversary banquet in 1984. As an indication of the broad-based support to that end from BCIU's Directors, I enclose copies of some of their recent correspondence. At our annual Board meeting on November 10th, this prospect was discussed in some detail, including the question of an appropriate issue on which such a major address could focus. That issue, we feel, could well be fixed on the role of the United States' embassies in their relations with U.S. business abroad.

We see this as an excellent opportunity for the Administration to identify with that issue, and to do so at the Executive level. It could take the form of a directive which would establish that the highest priority be maintained by each embassy on behalf of our business community's interests in that country. Our audience of hundreds of business leaders, whose companies employ tens of millions of people, would regard such a commitment by the President as a singularly timely and effective commitment to 'international understanding', crucially supportive of the Department of State's own policies.

A further step would be to include an American ambassador at each table of ten American businessmen. Some ambassadors are ordinarily present in Washington at any given time and an additional number could be brought back for this extraordinarily important occasion. To those could be added available senior officers from the Department itself, such as Assistant Secretaries and Deputy Assistant Secretaries from regional bureaus.

Since you are directly acquainted with BCIU, I wanted to share these plans with you (one mutual friend in particular [redacted] now in the Secretary's office, h:25X1 also encouraged me to do so), believing you would agree in principle with the concept, its timeliness and its value. I need not say how pleased we would be should you care personally to endorse our invitation at your own discretion.

With warm regards and best wishes for a happy holiday season,

Sincerely,



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